

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 228085

STADIS/////////
EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, CI

SUBJECT: LETELIER/MOFFITT ASSASSINATION CASE: CONVERSATION
WITH AMBASSADOR BARROS

1. CHILEAN AMBASSADOR BARROS GAVE LUNCH SEPTEMBER 6 FOR VISITING CHILEAN MINISTER OF HEALTH COLONEL CARLOS JIMENEZ, IN WASHINGTON BRIEFLY TO SIGN RURAL HEALTH LOAN FROM IDB.
2. AFTER LUNCH BARROS DREW CHILE DESK OFFICER STEVEN ASIDE FOR LENGTHY PRIVATE CONVERSATION. HE EXPRESSED DEEP CONCERN OVER BOTH TIMING AND METHOD OF TRANSMISSION OF EXTRADITION REQUESTS. DELIVERY ON SEPTEMBER 11, 18-19, OR 21 WOULD ALL HAVE OBVIOUS NEGATIVE POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS IN CHILE AND WOULD BE READ BY THE GOC AS CONFIDENTIAL

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CALCULATED POLITICAL/PSYCHOLOGICAL PRESSURE. STEVEN SAID WE WERE AWARE OF THE DELICACY OF THE TIMING AND WOULD TAKE HIS RECOMMENDATION INTO CONSIDERATION WHEN THE EXTRADITION PAPERS WERE READY FOR DELIVERY. BARROS ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT THE PAPERS BE SENT BY PROFESSIONAL DIPLOMATIC COURIER RATHER THAN BY ANY EXTRAORDINARY MESSENGER. FYI. THE PAPERS WILL BE CARRIED TO CHILE BY

REGULAR PROFESSIONAL COURIER, WHO WE ESTIMATE WILL LEAVE
WASHINGTON FOR SANTIAGO ON MONDAY EVENING SEPTEMBER 11.
ARRIVAL WILL BE CONFIRMED TO YOU BY TELEPHONE. END FYI. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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